

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

ITEM

5a

DECISION

TOPIC Jemmerson Slough, Dickinson County --General Railway Corporation

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to accept the donation of a permanent easement under and along railroad right-of-way adjacent to 15th Street (Spirit Lake) and the Jemmerson Slough WMA. The tract is located at the west edge of Spirit Lake on the north side of Iowa Highway 9. The easement will allow for the installation, maintenance, and permanent placement of a 6 ft. x 5 ft. concrete box culvert one foot below the elevation of the existing culvert for the draw down by gravity of Jemmerson Slough. In addition the easement will provide for the following:

- Construct earthen embankment as a pad for newly installed 3,000 gpm pump that will draw down the marsh to approximately six inches of water in the winter
- Connection to 15th Street (Spirit Lake) for maintenance access
- Buried intake pipe running under the railroad right-of-way
- Allow for construction of grate-style fish barrier and stop logs to eliminate rough fish
- Allow for construction and repair of equipment

Jerry Gibson negotiated the option for easement.

The DNR plans to draw down the marsh every 3-6 years to maintain the water quality. During these draw downs, stop logs will be removed from the culvert. When water ceases to gravity-flow through culvert, the pump will be turned on to remove additional water from the wetland. The improved water quality will stimulate emergent vegetation that will improve the water quality. Jemmerson Slough is managed for migratory waterfowl.

John F. Larkin, President of the General Railway Corporation, is stipulating the DNR pay a \$1,000 administrative fee and provide an appraisal of the donated right-of-way as a charitable contribution. Larkin has also requested payment of \$400 per day plus up to \$100 per day for lodging and meals for his railroad construction inspector to be present. Construction days are estimated to be a maximum of four days.

No surveying costs are anticipated. Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department. Funding for the administrative fee will be from the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund. The inspector's fees will be part of the construction costs that are being paid by Ducks Unlimited.

Attachment

Linda Hanson, Administrator
Management Services Division
December 13, 2007

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

ITEM

5b

DECISION

TOPIC

Palisades-Kepler State Park, Linn County -- Arline Troy

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to purchase a parcel of land located in Linn County adjacent to Palisades-Kepler State Park. Arline Troy offers this 5-acre tract for the appraised price of \$111,000.

Dan Kinsinger, while employed with Cook Appraisal in Iowa City, submitted the appraisal. Rick Hansen negotiated the purchase agreement.

This property is located in southeastern Linn County adjacent south and west of the Palisades-Kepler State Park. The forested tract is moderately sloping to steep and rectangular in shape. The tract contains an old dwelling and a small utility shed. Kepler Drive provides access to the northwest corner of the tract. The main park office and shop is directly across the road from the proposed acquisition.

This acquisition will capture the park's scenic setting and allow for good access to the park's trails and facilities. The Parks Bureau will manage the property in accord with the area management plan.

Acquisition funding will be provided by 100% REAP Open Spaces. No survey or fencing costs is anticipated. Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department.

Attachment

Linda Hanson, Administrator
Management Services Division
December 13, 2007